

THE A. T. FORERUNNER.

"NOT GREATER WEALTH, BUT SIMPLER PLEASURES."

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The Editor,

"St. Ive's," The Avenue.

The Spring awoke in her beauty clad,
And the green earth smiled, and the sky looked glad,
And the young flowers basked in the vernal sun,
And the trees put their beautiful foliage on---
I listened for music then.

Ruth Wills.

And indeed music and harmony are characteristic of the spring-time; what can be so inspiring as a typical spring day amid natural surroundings. The air harmonious with the singing of birds, the hedgerows bursting into leaf, the fruit trees and bushes decking themselves with blossoms, the humble violet, the pale primrose, and the lordly daffodil announcing by their fragrance or bright freshness that spring has come, while in every meadow the buttercup and the daisy are studding the green grass with yellow and white.

Surely if Easter to the devout has its sublime lessons of resurrection and life, so surely nature to us all, in bursting bud and opening flower and song of bird, proclaims that resurrection and life are the chief characteristics of every springtime, and the air vibrates with music to those who have ears to hear.

And who, amongst the large gathering of tenants and friends present at the Easter sports in the large field, could fail to realize that the spirit of the season was with us, and its music was finding expression in exuberant joyous mirthfulness, good humoured banter, harmless jest and rollicking laughter. Keen interest was shown by the spectators regarding which of the youngsters would first pass the tape, great excitement prevailed, as the ladies with egg in spoon, were trying their best to be careful and make haste both at once, though with good humour they joined in the laughter that greeted their discomfiture, when egg and spoon parted company before reaching the goal. Bursts of laughter came peal after peal when the girls unexpectedly beat the boys at tug of war: and when someone suggested that to wind up the afternoon's proceedings, the tenants of Keyham Lane should pull the rope against the tenants of the Avenue, and after a few moments tugging the rope objected to the process, and parting in the middle, sent both teams sprawling on the grass, combatants and spectators alike laughed till their sides ached. Space forbids us to do more than just mention the tea for the children,

to which they did ample justice, or the concert in the Institute with which the day's proceedings terminated.

"Not greater wealth, but simpler pleasures," is the motto of our paper. Simple pleasures these Easter Monday festivities were, but judged by their joyful mirthfulness, very effectual nevertheless in affording a maximum of fun and merriment.

There were town folk present with us that day, who, impressed by the joyousness of the scene, and the beauty of the surroundings, feel inclined to join our Society. We shall be glad to welcome such, there are indeed sports and pleasures and interests possible in a garden suburb in which the town dweller cannot share.

Last month's issue contained a summary of the progress made by our own society, and it will perhaps be of some interest to our members to learn of the progress being made by other Federated Tenant Societies.

Burnage (Manchester Tenants Limited) has the honour of being the first completed estate. The area is eleven acres, houses 144, rentals from 5/3 to 14/- weekly. This is a very pretty village, with artistic cottages, giving variety and interest in what architects call the "street picture."

Harborne, near Birmingham, is next in order of completion; 500 houses upon 53 acres of land are expected to be fully completed during the present year. 4/8 per week to £50 per year in rentals give a large variation in type of house built. This, it is believed, is the only society, as yet, who has attempted to build a block of flats, whether this will prove acceptable to the type of tenant we get upon our co-partnership estates, remains to be seen. Social life is being fully developed on this estate; a handsome club house, large public hall, shops, lawn tennis and bowling greens, being a distinct feature of the development.

Ealing Tenants.—The first and relatively the richest of our societies, are extending their work. 2/- in the £ dividend upon rents for two years running, added to previous accumulations, have put many of their tenants in the happy position of having equal to half a year's rent in their repairs fund account. The Society has re-invested £5,000 of capital. It has built up a sinking fund in such a way that its chairman can prophecy that in forty years time the whole capital value of the estate will be wiped out, the then value of the whole developed estate will be the entire property of the society in trust for its members.

Hampstead Tenants.—The third Hampstead Tenants Society has been formed and has commenced work. The development will now extend altogether over nine miles of the Heath. 26,000 people will be

housed, 22,000 of these by Co-partnership Tenants Societies.

Altogether, the work now in hand upon estates federated to the Co-partnership Tenants will, when complete, amount to the enormous value of Four Million Pounds Sterling.

The Uses of Imagination.

BY IGNOTIUS.

"The impressions on the imagination make the great days of life; the book, the landscape, or the personality, which did not stay on the surface of the eye or ear, but penetrated to the inward sense, agitates us, and is not forgotten."

Emerson.

Imagination is that faculty which forms new combinations of ideas from materials already stored in the mind. In other words it is the constructive or inventive faculty of the mind. We are all inventors, more or less, in some direction or another, though the products of our imagination may often fail to be as useful as the power itself is lively. Properly exercised this faculty can be made the source of continual mental delight, because its very essence is variety. Our every conversation is illustrated by innumerable views, at more or less distinct focus, thrown upon the screen of memory by the lantern of the mind's eye. Our every anticipation depends for its keenness, on the fact that the labour that the reality so seldom is as bright and as lasting as the pleasurable anticipation.

As deep as our sentiments, our sensibilities, our passions may be, by so much will our imaginations be brighter, more various, more intense than reality. Our summer excursions to the seaside, or country furnish us for weeks beforehand with anticipations of delights to-morrow. We are full of visions of sunny days, cooling breezes, sparkling seas with dashing waves; or shady glens, singing brooks, giant trees, and everlasting hills. But on arriving at the scene of our dreams we find the sun not so bright, nor has the sea quite all its visioned lustre; the glens, they seem too dim, and the brook it sings with but half a tune; the whole fact anyway is just a little disappointing.

The imagination is also a valuable aid to memory. The pictures that are cast before the mind's eye at any eventful moment serve as the greatest factor in reproducing the impressions when wanted. The first stanza in Longfellow's "Village Blacksmith" serves as an apt illustration of this process:—

"Under a spreading chestnut tree

The village smithy stands"

Who can recall these words without picturing the fine old tree he used to stone in olden days for "cheggies;" or hear again the ring of the hammer in some obscure village of childhood rambles. We unite the tree and the smithy and form a new picture.

A proof of our common use of the imagination may be noticed in the frequent use of the word "like;" like fire, like lightning, like a sheet, and so on. It is

the frequent use of comparisons and symbols that makes the best reading so delightful. They call up the imagination, the exercise of which takes us out of ourselves, causes us to forget our petty miseries, and live, for a time, in a new world. For this reason is poetry ever the best reading, for it abounds in symbols; not only is there pleasure in the visionary picture, but the very fact that one has solved the symbol, and gained the key to what appeared to be a mystery, is self-satisfaction.

REPORTS.

MONTHLY MEETING.

At the Monthly Meeting in the Institute, on the 20th, Mr. J. T. Taylor, in the absence of Mr. E. T. Groom, presided over a fair attendance of members. Mr. Gilliver presented the Committee's Report which included the matter of the increase in rates, particularly the water rate, this, subsequently creating some discussion. It was also reported that the Society had commenced to do the painting direct and intend soon to do the plumbing; and that shortly the next ten acres of the estate will be taken over and building operations commenced thereon. Mr. Mason reported re management of A.T.F., and hoped the tenants would help by contributions (literary of course, not financial) to make the paper interesting and instructive to its readers. He also invited suggestions for new name. This caused some discussion, opinion being apparently divided. Mr. J. Rowlett reported that the seed committee had nearly completed its work for the Season, and Mr. Wilford announced that the G.C. were providing an open air skittle alley, and would provide a cricket pitch for the coming summer. A resolution was proposed and carried that the Secretary convene a meeting to form a Sports Club to carry on the various outdoor games.

THE CHILDREN'S DAY.

Easter Monday has always been recognised as the children's day on this estate since the S.S.C. was first formed, and this year was no exception to the rule, for the children were undoubtedly well catered for by their friends of that committee. As early as—well one youngster was seen dressed ready to take part in the football match, bare knees, etc., as early as seven o'clock: kick off eleven o'clock. But 2-30 was the time for the great events of the day to commence, and at that time the course was crowded with competitors and spectators all eagerly discussing the coming events, and the faces of the youngsters were a picture that must have gladdened the hearts of those responsible. At about 2-45 a start was made and the following races were run:—

- Ladies' Egg and Spoon Race,
1st, Mrs. Beamish, 2nd, Miss Langley.
- Ladies' Flat Race,
1st, Mrs. Aston, 2nd, Mrs. Harris.
- Girls' Flat Race, 10 to 14 years,
1st, Mabel Greenwood, 2nd, Alma Harding.
- Girls' Flat Race, 7 to 10 years,
1st, Hilda Winterton, 2nd, Rene Mason.
- Girls' Flat Race, 3 to 5 years,
1st, Edna Harris, 2nd, Freda Parker.
- Tug of War, 9 Girls v 6 Boys—Girls won.
- Boys' Flat Race, 10 to 14 years,
1st, Horace Winterton, 2nd, Edgar Winterton.
- Boys' Sack Race, 10 to 14 years,
1st, Ht. Kirton, 2nd, Harry Smith.
- Boys' Flat Race, 7 to 10 years,
1st, Will Harding, 2nd, Walter Scott.
- Boys' Flat Race, 3 to 5 years,

1st, Reggie Kirton, 2nd, Stanley Beamish, 3rd, Mark Bowerman. The event of the day however, was, without a doubt, the tea provided in the Institute for the children after the sports. In the races previous to this some of the youngsters ran remarkably well, but in this event

they *all ran well*, in fact, when the prizes were distributed, one prize winner was still busy absorbing. But if anyone had a doubt as to whether the youngsters enjoyed their day, the distribution of prizes after tea would speedily have led to conviction for they nearly lifted the roof off. Enjoy themselves? not half! to use a vulgar term, in fact it was quite common to hear the adults saying "the best day yet."

The A.T. & District Choral Society.

A most successful season in connection with the above society was concluded with a social evening in the Institute, on Wednesday, April 19th, to which members and friends were invited. A most enjoyable time was spent, and refreshments were provided. A brief survey of the work of the session shows that nearly thirty members have made almost full attendance, at practice, which proves their desire to build up a useful and efficient musical society. The following items show that something has been accomplished, though not all that could be desired. On July 23rd, 1910, a Sunday Evening Concert was given in the open. Selections were rendered at the Adult Schools Meeting on the Green, on August 14th. The North Evington Women's Adult School had the opportunity of listening to the choir on Sunday, October 11th, in the Asfordby Street Rooms. The Christmas Season did not pass without a concert being given by the society in the Institute, and a most successful Whist Drive took place in aid of the funds. The last concert of the season was given in the Institute on Easter Monday, hardly room being found in which to sing. The conductor, Mr. T. Wilford, has every cause to be satisfied with the progress of the choir, and Mr. W. Neal is ably watching its interests as Secretary.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

The above society concluded the Winter session with an interesting discussion around the subject of "Slums and Garden Cities of the Brain," ably introduced by Mr. H. Hallam. The speaker based his argument on the idea that inasmuch as the higher or lower sections of the brain were the more greatly developed, so the mind dwells, metaphorically speaking, in a garden city or a slum. Various types of the human head were examined in diagram, and its variations from the lower to the higher types explained. The speaker pleaded for what he termed a normal type of brain, which obtains when every faculty of the mind of each individual is developed to the full. The narrowness of present day commercialism had the effect of keeping the activities of the mind in the lowest quarters of the brain—the slums. If the mind could have the opportunity to live in its garden cities, instead of its slums, life would be a pleasure instead of a struggle for a mere existence. An interesting discussion followed, and was closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Hallam.

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

A most interesting lecture was delivered in the Meeting House, on Wednesday, April 12th, by Mr. F. S. Hene, on "How the Bible came to us." With the aid of limelight illustrations he traced the history of the Sacred Book from the earliest stones and manuscripts to the authorised version of to-day. From the original Hebrew and Greek text into the Latin, by the important translations of St. Jerome, called the Vulgate; onward into the Anglo-Saxon through Caedmon, Bede, Alfred the Great, and known as The Lindisfarne Gospels, right onward, with a brief recognition of the great work of John Wycliffe, into the first days of printing and the brave labours of Tyndalle, from whom we derive, in a large measure, the version as we have it to-day. One can only wonder, said the lecturer in other words, that, with all the numerous translations and persecutions the Word of God has passed through, we are as near to the original testaments as is necessary to our understanding. The lecture was much appreciated by a good audience.

HUMBERSTONE VESTRY.

The Annual Vestry Meeting was held in the Village schoolroom on April 19th. The Vicar, the Rev. A. N. Bates, presided, and in the course of his opening remarks referred to the scarcity of curates, and stated that he had failed to obtain an assistant in spite of repeated advertising, but he hoped to obtain one before long. Mr. Fowler, the Parish Warden, presented the accounts. The Crow orchard, which lets at £20 per annum, half of which is for charity and half for Church

purposes, had produced three half years rent during the past Church year. The charity account had a balance to begin of £3-7-2, half the rent £15, and a rebate of income tax £1-6-3. Out of this over £6 had been spent in repair of fences, and 15 deserving old people had received 10/- each at Christmas, the balance being carried forward. The Church account income was about £88, £53 being voluntary subscriptions, £15 half rent of Crow orchard, and the rest Church collections. The expenditure, which included choir expenses, lighting and heating Church, and half fencing account of orchard, etc., amounted to £78-3-6. Mr. Warburton was elected Vicar's warden, and Mr. Fowler parish warden, Messrs. Richardson and Hackett, sidesmen. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding terminated the proceedings.

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING.

The above meeting was held in the village school-room, on Monday, April 24th, but apart from the Parish Councillors only one resident attended. With Mr. Turner in the chair the minutes were read and confirmed. After which the matter of Coronation celebrations was discussed, and it was resolved to call a special meeting to be held on Friday, May 6th, in the hope that a large number of ratepayers would attend. A Parish Council Meeting was also held at which Mr. Turner was re-elected chairman, and Messrs. Fox and Rouse appointed overseers. It was decided that the clerk write the County Authorities requesting them to remove an iron fence which they had erected in front of some land owned by the Parish on the Thurnby Road.

Items of Interest.

Oh! that tug-of-war between the teams of "old-uns" on Easter Monday. The strain on mind, body, and rope must have been enormous, and something had to give way. We suggest a ship's hawser for the next attempt.

And then to break the winning post down in the flat races, because of their inability to pull up when once going.

But what grand testimonials to the strength-giving properties of our beautiful garden suburb.

We congratulate Mr. Harrott on his appointment by the Leicester Co-operative Society as their delegate to the Annual Congress at Bradford.

According to the result of their match with Crafton Street S.S., our junior football team not only requires a "coach," but if our information is correct a "van" also to cart away the injured.

We should like to call our Members' attention to the trip to Oxford, on May 20th, arranged by the Joint Educational Committee, for an inspection of the University. The fare will be 3/-, with 9d. extra for tea.

The youngsters have found the See-Saws just erected, extremely exhilarating, and they are to be congratulated on having some one in office so mindful of them and their innocent pleasures.

SOCIAL SERVICE COMMITTEE.

Orders for COAL will be received and attended to
By Mr. H. GROOCOCK,

"Woodbine," Keyham Lane.

Gardening Notes.

Plant general crop of potatoes. Give a dressing of soot and superphosphate at the rate of one handful to the running yard, this being much better than stable manure.

Kidney beans and beetroot sown on the 12th of this month usually escape the Spring frosts. A good dressing of superphosphate and, say two handfuls to the square yard, well worked into the soil, will give good results for the beans; and one handful of salt to the yard for beet as a top dressing.

By this time we shall be thinking of beautifying our gardens with the many varieties of annuals, such as Stocks, Asters, Zinnias, Antirrhums, and many others too numerous to mention. If we wish to get the best results from these they must be planted in beds or patches of each variety. Care should also be taken in the blending of colours, so that we get our beds to harmonize one with the other.

Onions should be given a top dressing of salt and soot alternately every three weeks, one handful to the running yard and raked into the soil.

The hoe should be used freely among all crops to kill weed and keep the surface loose which will save much watering.

The Sands of Dee.

O Mary, go and call the cattle home,
And call the cattle home,
And call the cattle home,
Across the sands o' Dee!

The western wind was wild and daub wi' foam,
And all alone went she.

The creeping tide came up along the sand,
And o'er and o'er the sand,
And round and round the sand,
As far as eye could see;

The blinding mist came down and hid the land—
And never home came she.

Oh, is it weed or fish or floating hair—
A tress o' golden hair,
O' drowned maiden's hair,
Above the nets, at sea?

Was never salmon yet that shone so fair
Across the stables on Dee.

They row'd her in across the rolling foam,
The cruel crawling foam,
The cruel hungry foam,
To her grave beside the sea;

But still the boatmen hear her call the cattle home,
Across the sands o' Dee.

C. Kingsley.

Social Service Committee.

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Letters to the Editor.

CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.

Letters to the Editor need not be signed. Writer's name and address, on a separate slip, must accompany letters, but will not be published unless required. Will correspondents and others please write on one side of the paper only.

To the Editor,

Dear Sir,—I was pleased to see reply to my letter of March issue, by "Another Enthusiast," but was sorry I failed to make myself properly understood. The point I was driving at, lay in the fact that there are a number of distinct Societies formed, whereas I had hoped to see formed, one large body, having for its object "Brotherhood"; holding no particular creed, not being controlled by any particular party. Such should hurt no one's conscience either in religious, or secular matters. The ladies' "At Home," I repeat, is nearest this ideal; any lady can attend, I understand, without having to conform to something she doesn't believe in. I quite agree that every meeting needs to cover expenses, and while subscriptions are more stable than collections, the latter are often much more convenient, for obvious reasons. I am pleased to be corrected in regard to the Debating Society in so much that debate is open to anyone. The suggestions in regard to the Sports' Club bid fair to run along the lines I desire; a Sports' Club having its various games controlled, to some extent, by the main body, not split up into separate distinct clubs. I desire to say in conclusion that I have not stood aloof, though I have not belonged to the Societies in question.—Yours respectfully,

"ONE OF THE ENTHUSIASTS."

To the Editor,

Dear Sir,—Kindly allow me to call the attention of tenants to the very reasonable request printed on the back of the rent book, "Tenants are requested to refrain from working in the garden on Sundays, this conduct lowering the residential value of the Estate." It has been observed by many, that for some time past, this expressed wish has been allowed to slip from the memory of some of us, so that, gradually, gardening has increased on Sundays until, instead of a few greens gathered before breakfast, you may see some tenants gardening in earnest till dinner-time. This, I for one, believe, is detrimental to the best interests of the Estate, and the rising generation. While believing this has occurred owing to want of thought, it is to be hoped that now the matter has been mentioned, both visitors and tenants may see a decided improvement in this respect.—Yours truly, "A TENANT."

The following suggested names for the estate have been forwarded and will be passed on to the G.C. for full consideration.—Hopedale, Southvale, Gladburne, Healthbourne, Holyford, Blandvale, Girney, Ashthorp, Thorpash, Ashville, Edenville, Bernby, Wenby, Uplands-garth.

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